



The

# GARzette

The Official Newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
March 2013      <http://www.gars.org/>      Volume 22, Issue 3



## March is PI Month at GARS

### What's a Raspberry Pi?



- ◆ How much will it cost?
- ◆ What will I get when I buy one?
- ◆ What's the difference between Model A and Model B?
  - ◆ What SoC are you using?
    - ◆ How powerful is it?
    - ◆ How does it boot?
  - ◆ How do I connect a mouse and keyboard?

Learn all about it at this months meeting!  
Read about it here: <http://www.raspberrypi.org/faqs>

Have you had your Pi yet?

# Message From The President

This month let us explore the impact electronic computers have made on amateur radio. During the radio renaissance, transmitters, receivers, and their hybrid transceiver brethren were comprised of resistors, inductors, capacitors, and vacuum tubes, with mechanical switches and verniers for changing filters, bands, and frequencies. Later, integrated circuits were adapted into our radios. Eventually we ended up with digital variable frequency oscillators, rig control, digital signal processing, and even software defined radios. We also put computers *with* our radios which allow us to do logging, modulation for digital modes, perform voice keyer functions, design our QSL cards, run our antenna design and simulation software, and they even allow us to look up other radio amateurs for free on sites such as qrz.com while we operate. Some guys even stream video of themselves operating onto the Internet so others can watch them as they contact them. Now *there* is something I doubt Marconi could have imagined!



Kyle Albritton—W4KDA

As I write this note on my laptop, I am also doing some DX using the JT65 mode and catching up on some e-mail (yay! I just worked the Canary Islands on 80m). For me, having the computer so well integrated to the radio means I can learn about the hobby and play radio sport, while also being productive. I will admit that in some ways the computer may have detracted from amateur radio. However, I am of the opinion that the benefits outweigh the losses and I suspect many of you do too.



At this month's GARS meeting, our program is about a relatively new computer on the market called The Raspberry Pi. It is a tiny, single board computer which uses an SD card as its "hard drive", runs several flavors of Linux, and is just about the size of an Altoids tin. "The Pi", as many people call it, has dozens or even hundreds of potential uses. Its low power and small size make it ideal for many tasks. Even better, the ham community has endorsed The Pi, producing software for amateur radio to run on it.

I am quite pleased to announce that at this month's GARS meeting our program is going to be about using The Raspberry Pi for amateur radio. It will be a beginner's look at The Pi and what you can do with it to enhance your ham radio experience. I, for one, cannot wait to see this program and hope to see all of you there.

Wishing you great health, wealth, and may all your contacts be 59,

*Kyle,* W4KDA



# GARS March Meeting

## "A Slice of Pi"

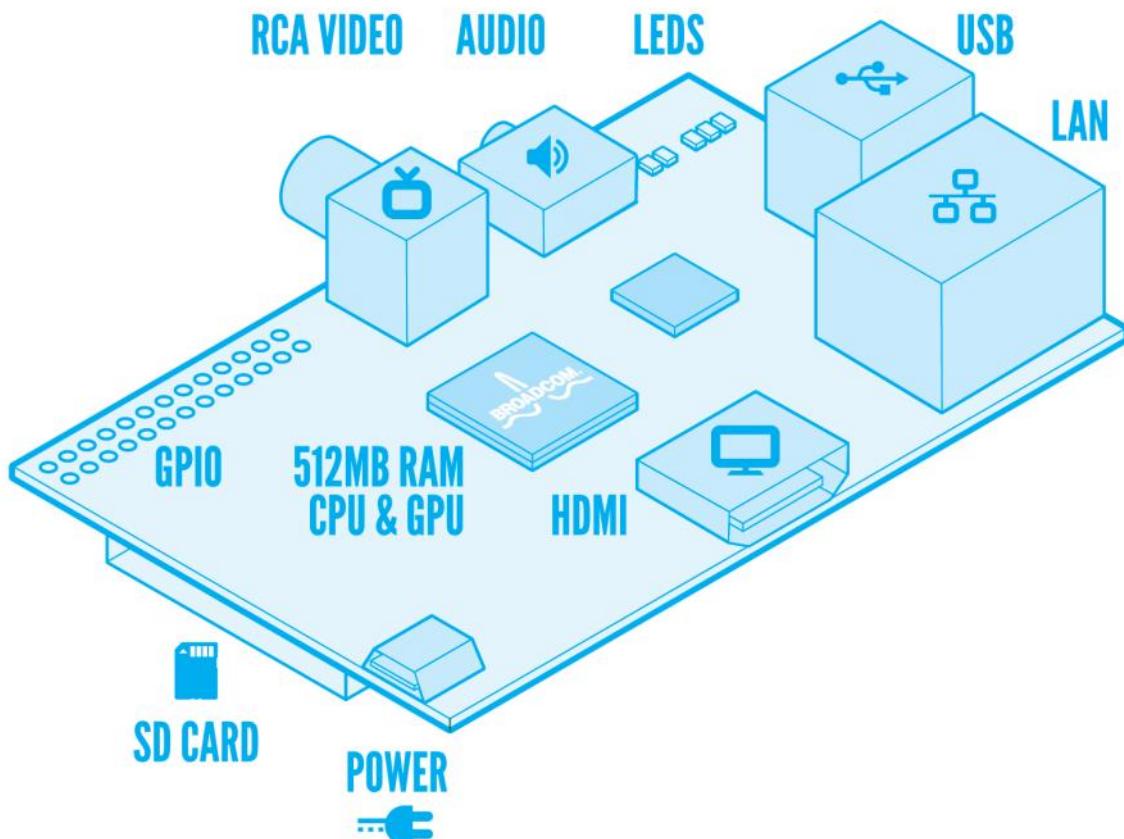
presented by Chris Fowler, K4FH

**Don't miss your chance to win a Raspberry-PI during the meeting.**

Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7pm. (except December)

EAA 690 Hangar at Briscoe Field  
Sports Aviation Complex - Hangar 1  
690 Airport Road  
Lawrenceville, GA 30045

## RASPBERRY PI MODEL B



<http://www.raspberrypi.org/faqs>

# ARES-Coordinated Search-and-Rescue Exercise A Success

by Josh Bugosh

In the growing warmth of a December morning, a search team of three men stomped down the forest trail, a dog leading the way. The morning was still and calm, and the rescuers called out for their missing person, but their voices echoed through the trees and returned nothing.

Then the dog, altered to a scent, veered off the trail and bounded down the slope of a side hill. In seconds he returned and led the team down to the victim.

"Search and Rescue, victim number two has been recovered," they transmitted on their hand-held radio.

The exercise was a success.

Though it was only a training activity, the groups involved ensured the readiness of their volunteers and equipment. Led by the Gwinnett ARES, three other groups participated in the event: the Georgia Appalachian Trail Club Search and Rescue Team, the Gwinnett Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT), and the Alpha Team K9 Search and Rescue (ATSAR).



The exercise took place in the woods of Gwinnett County's Little Mulberry Park and centered around a mock-scenario in which an avid outdoorsman named Sam takes his FRS radio and goes out to ride his ATV, only to never return home. It would not turn out to be a simple rescue operation, though, as additional information about a second missing person was planted, only to be discovered upon the rescue of Sam.

Radio equipment was vital not only in ensuring communication between the groups, but also in finding the victims. Early on in the search, the party

was able to discover and maintain radio contact with Sam, who was laying off the side of a trail and unable to do anything except press the call button on his FRS radio.



ARES was able to make use once again of a radio repeater to ensure communication and narrow down Sam's location (the device had proved useful in a past exercise). In under two hours, he was found with the help of a search-and-rescue dog and the information about the second victim was revealed. In all, it took the combined talents of the team under four hours to find both "victims," well before lunchtime.

Jeff Cutchins [AB4HF] of the Gwinnett ARES stressed the importance of this type of readiness training. "In an emergency where our technology is disabled, low-tech radios are the backup," he said.

September 11th reinforced this need, as shortwave radios proved vital in the communication between rescue workers. Since then, all first-responders have been trained to act under the Incident Command System (ICS) model, which stresses communication and organization amidst the chaos of a disaster.

Cutchins expressed satisfaction with the exercise, confident that the volunteers of Gwinnett County are ready should the need for them arise.



# Contesting

## Frequently Asked Questions

From: [http://www.qsl.net/zs1an/contesting\\_faq.html](http://www.qsl.net/zs1an/contesting_faq.html)

Click on each line for answers

[Why take part in contests?](#)

[How is the winner determined?](#)

[How are points scored?](#)

[What is a "multiplier"?](#)

[What sort of things count as multipliers?](#)

[What is a DXCC Entity?](#)

[What is a CQ Zone?](#)

[What bands can be used during contests?](#)

[What are the "WARC" bands?](#)

[Can I work the same station more than once?](#)

[What if I work a station more than once on the same band and mode?](#)

[Why are there different entry categories?](#)

[What sorts of entrance categories are provided?](#)

[What do "SOLP", "SOHP", "SOAB", "SOSB", "M/S", "M/2" and "M/M" mean?](#)

[What is the "DX Cluster"?](#)

[What category should I enter?](#)

[Do I need a computerized logging program?](#)

[What logging program should I get?](#)

[What should I look for in a contest logging program?](#)

[What is the "Cabrillo" log-file format?](#)

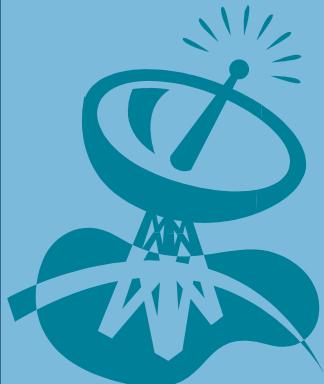
[How do I connect the computer to my rig?](#)

## CONTEST CALENDAR de ARRL.ORG

### MARCH

2-3

[International DX Contest – Phone](#)



### April

21

[Rookie Roundup – Phone](#)

### June

8-9

[June VHF Contest](#)

15 [Kids Day](#)

22-23 [Field Day](#)

### July

13-14

[IARU HF World Championship](#)

### August

3-4

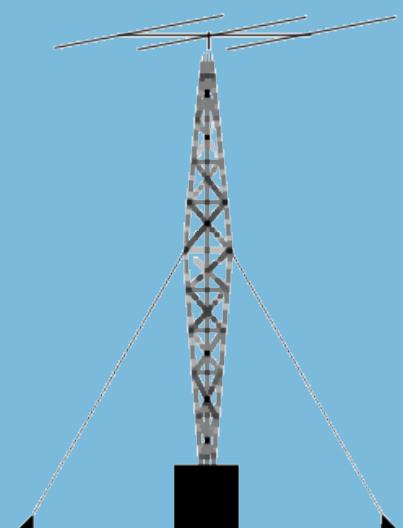
[August UHF Contest](#)

17-18

[10 GHz & Up Contest – Round 1](#)

18

[Rookie Roundup – RTTY](#)



**NEW**

# GARS Membership Page

**NEW**

## New GARS Members in February

Octavian Craiovan (KK4NYR)  
Michael Ford (KK4NZE)  
Roberto Gonzalez (KA7RGR)  
Rick Howard (KK4RMH)

## New Members: 4

Total Members as of  
March 1, 2013  
- 235 -

Join us for our weekly breakfast gathering at 7:30 AM Most Saturdays at:

Golden Corral  
2155 Riverside Parkway  
Lawrenceville, GA 30043  
[\(Directions\)](#)

Also, before our Tuesday meeting you are invited to join other GARS members and guests dining at:

The Flying Machine (starting about 5:30 PM)  
510 Briscoe Blvd. NE  
Lawrenceville, GA  
[\(Directions\)](#)

The following members are celebrating birthdays in March:

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!  
From All of Us at GARS**

Jody Ackermann (KC8KDC)

Herbert Allen (KI4RMC)

Deidra Atkin

David Bruse (W4DTR)

Michael Clinton Dabney (KI4ZVY)

Cecil Duncan (KD4ZEM)

Lewis Eberhardt (KE4QOV)

Jason Hilborn (KD4BGE)

Vester Scott (N8EKA)

Robert (Mike) Smith (KK4KHS)

Ed Woodrick (WA4YIH)



## GARS Membership

To become a GARS member, or to renew your GARS membership, please visit our website - <http://www.gars.org>

To make changes to your GARS membership (moved, new email address, new phone number, etc.), please email the Membership Chairman - [membership@gars.org](mailto:membership@gars.org)

You can renew or update your Amateur Radio license information with the FCC at their website for free - <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>

To update your ARRL information, please visit their website - <http://www.arrl.org>

## The Georgia QSO Party



Georgia QSO Party's 52nd Anniversary

APRIL 13 - 14, 2013

The party is annually, the second full weekend of April.

There are two operating periods: 1800Z Saturday until 0359Z Sunday and  
1400Z to 2359Z on Sunday.

Visit the website for more information about GQP [www.georgiaqsoparty.org](http://www.georgiaqsoparty.org)

Go to your local club, and let them know about our QSO Party.

Be sure to get on the air in your county.

Take a mobile rover run to your close counties and help us get all 159 counties on the air again!

OBJECTIVE: For amateurs outside of the state of Georgia to make contact with as many Phone and/or CW Georgia stations in as many of the 159 Georgia counties, as possible. Georgia stations work everyone on Phone, CW, or both modes.

The GQP is on 160m, 80m, 40m, 20m, 15m, 10m, and 6m.

Want to sponsor Prizes, Plaques, or Awards? Contact [plaques@georgiaqsoparty.org](mailto:plaques@georgiaqsoparty.org)

GQP is sponsored by South East Contest Club, Southeastern DX Club and many more.

## We're looking forward to the 2013 Georgia QSO Party It's April 13 and 14

2012 was a great year, and my first at coordinating the party. Took us a while to get scoring done, but it is [done] and you can actually print your own or your clubs certificates at the URL <http://tinyurl.com/gqpcert>. Use the call [that you] used in your score submittal, and you can print a county winner or participation certificate.

I'm a little late, but we now have the 2012 GQP scores posted.

35 of the 39 available plaques were awarded and delivered.

345 logs were submitted.

Several of the logs had multiple operators, so a lot of us were involved.

We worked all but Screven county.

If you want a certificate for participation, use this link: <http://tinyurl.com/gqpcert>

As soon as you know what county or counties you or your friends will be covering this year, send me a note and I'll start filling in the map. We worked all but one county in 2012. Screven was missed.

73 and best wishes,

*Norm Schklar*

Amateur Radio Station  
WA4ZXV  
Georgia QSO Party Coordinator

## The Georgia QSO Party



[www.georgiaqsoparty.org](http://www.georgiaqsoparty.org)

## **TECHNICIAN CLASS HAM CRAM**

**GARS is hosting a one day - Technician Class Ham Cram**

We are trying to get the word out to all the clubs and groups for potential new hams all around North Georgia. Please help us spread the word.

**\*\*\* Pre-registration is Required \*\*\***

There is no charge for the class, but there will be a \$15 charge for the Technician license exam immediately following the class.

**Saturday March 30th**

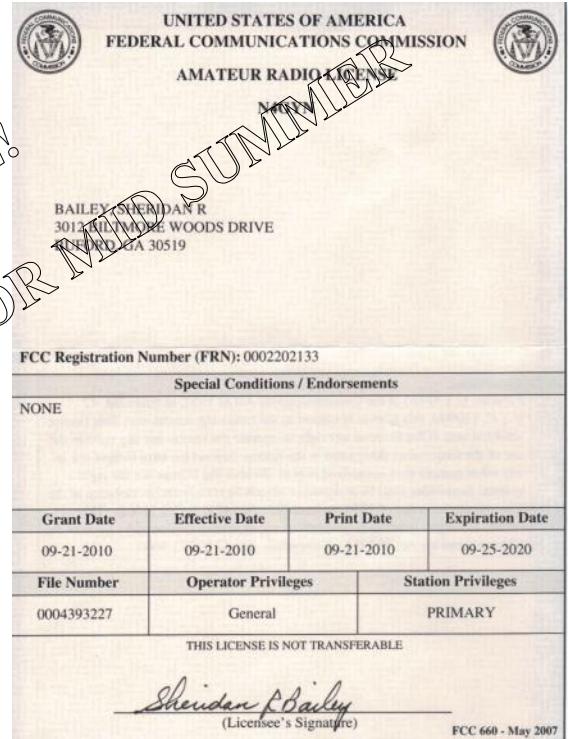
Emergency Operations Center (EOC)  
800 Hi Hope Road  
Lawrenceville, GA

Study: 8:00am to 5:00pm  
Exam Session: 5:00pm to 7:00pm

Please pre-register on the GARS website, [www.gars.org](http://www.gars.org)

73,

*Kyle*, W4KDA, President, Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society



### **KB6NU's Ham Radio Blog**

**Ferreting out noise sources**

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

About three months ago, I put up a 20m antenna—an end-fed, half-wave antenna (<http://www.kb6nu.com/kb6nu-finally-builds-an-end-fed-half-wave-antenna/>). Right off the bat, I was flummoxed by the high noise level. It was nearly S9, obliterating all but the strongest signals.

The strange thing about this noise was that I was only experiencing it on 20m, and only using this antenna. If I switched to my 40m dipole, the noise dropped back to the S1 - S2 noise level that I usually experience here. (Yes, I know. I'm really lucky to have such a low noise level here.)

It didn't really make any sense to me that this antenna would be so susceptible to noise while my other antennas weren't, but I just couldn't come up with any other explanation. I was not experiencing any noise on any of the other bands, after all. Sometimes 40m is so quiet here that I check to make sure that the antenna is connected to the radio.

As luck would have it, I stumbled upon the noise source a couple of days ago. I had taken the laptop I normally use in the shack somewhere one day last week, and when I returned it to the shack that evening, I switched the rig over to 20m before connecting the power supply back to

(Continued on page 11)

Let's All Go to the...

# Ellijay Hamfest 2013

**Ellijay Amateur Radio Society, Inc.**  
Ellijay, Georgia

## New Tailgating Hamfest

**DATE:** Saturday March 16, 2013

**Time:** 7:00 AM until 2:00PM

**Place:** Ellijay Lions Club  
1561 South Main Street  
Ellijay, Georgia 30540

**Talk In:** 145.170 MHz (-600KHz) PL100Hz  
**W4HHH Repeater**  
443.9875 MHz (+5.0 MHz)  
**D-Star/EchoLink**

### ADMISSION: \$5.00 per person

FREE TAILGATING AND FREE PARKING FOR EVERYONE  
BRING YOUR OWN TABLES AND CHAIRS  
BRING ALL YOUR ITEMS TO SELL

HAVE A FUN DAY

FOOD: Morning Coffee and Doughnuts will be available

For additional information Contact  
Judy G. Wehnt - KJ4UDY  
Richard Wehnt - W4LKD  
or go to  
<http://www.w4hhh.org>



## NET MANAGERS CORNER

Hello Everyone from N4LNE, GARS Net Manager.

I want to thank everyone for taking the time to check in to the nets and I especially wish to thank the NCS and ANCS stations for their time and effort.

Please think about adding your name to the list as NCS or ANCS.

### Monday Night Net Stats.

DATE	CHECK INS	NCS	ANCS
02/25/2013	21	Ray N4GYN	Phil N4LNE
02/18/2013	24	Sandy KJ4DRO	Norm WA4ZXV
02/11/2013	26	Norm WA4ZXV	Phil N4LNE
02/04/2013	21	Bill KK4AUA	-

### Wednesday Night “Know It All” Net Stats

DATE	CHECK INS	NCS	ANCS
02/27/2013	28	Jeff AB4HF	Ray N4GYN
02/20/2013	-	Jeff AB4HF	-
02/13/2013	-	Jeff AB4HF	-
02/07/2013	10	Phil N4LNE	David KK4CMY

73'

See you on the Nets!

*Phil,*      N4LNE  
Net Manager



### TOPICS for the “KNOW IT ALL” Net - For March -

- March-06    Radios: mobile/fixed/portable
- March-13    Grounding: mobile/fixed
- March-20    Modes of operation: data/psk31/JT-65/Olivia/etc.
- March-27    Audio: testing/managing/mobile/fixed

Everyone is having great fun on this new net! Come join us and become a “KNOW IT ALL”.

**TIME: 8:30 every Wednesday evening on the GARS repeater - 147.075, PL 82.5**

the laptop. No noise! When I plugged the power supply into the laptop, the noise jumped up to S9 again. The problem noise source was found!

I posted about my experience to my blog and to the HamRadioHelpGroup (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HamRadioHelpGroup/>). Mark, K5LXP, one of the gurus on HRHG, advised me to throw the main circuit breaker in order to determine if it was something inside the house generating the noise. Bob, K0NR, commented on my blog post, "I have found that flipping off circuit breakers in my house is a good first step to try and find a noise source. Usually ticks off the family, but what the heck :)" Either of these methods will help you determine if a noise source is inside or outside of your house.

I'm still thinking that the way my antenna is positioned may have something to do with its picking up the noise generated by the power supply. I plan to play around with the positioning of the antenna once the snow melts and see if that makes any difference. Until then, I can work 20m with the power supply disconnected and run the laptop off the battery.

So, the next question you might ask is how does the antenna work? It seems to be putting out a very good signal. One evening last week, I worked several DX stations, including 6W/HA0NAR in Senegal. It's not a beam, but I'm pretty happy with it.

Dan Romanchik, [KB6NU](#)



## UPCOMING HAMFEST CALENDAR

### Southeast US

#### **03/02/2013 | [Alabama Section Convention \(BirmingHamfest\)](#)**

**Location:** Birmingham, AL

**Type:** ARRL Convention pending Executive Committee approval

**Sponsor:** Birmingham Amateur Radio Club

**Website:** <http://w4cue.com>

#### **03/16/2013 | [Ellijay Tailgate Hamfest 2013](#)**

**Location:** Ellijay Lions Club Fairgrounds, GA ([map](#))

**Time:** 7am to 2pm

**Sponsor:** Ellijay Amateur Radio Society EARC

**Website:** <http://www.ngamtn.com/w4hhh/>

#### **03/30/2013 | [Thomasville Tailgate/ Hamfest](#)**

**Location:** Thomasville, GA

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Thomasville Amateur Radio Club

**Website:** <http://thomasvilleamateurradioclub.com/hamfest/>

#### **04/27/2013 | [Calhoun / Sugar Valley Hamfest](#)**

**Location:** Sugar Valley, GA

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Cherokee Capital Amateur Radio Society

**Website:** <http://www.k4woc.com>

#### **05/11/2013 | [Heart of Georgia Hamfest](#)**

**Location:** Byron, GA

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Central Georgia ARC, Middle Georgia RA, & Byron Middle School RC

**Website:** <http://www.heartofgeorgiahampfest.com>

#### **06/01/2013 | [Georgia State Convention \(Atlanta Hamfest\)](#)**

**Location:** Marietta, GA

**Type:** ARRL Convention **Sponsor:** Atlanta Radio Club (W4DOC)

**Website:** <http://www.atlantahamfest.com>

# BSA Venture Crew 73 Wants You!

IF YOU are between 14 and 21 years old, enjoy outdoor activities, and have an interest in radio technology,

## Venture Crew 73 is for you.

- Venture Crews are part of the Boy Scouts of America.
- *Venture crew 73 is chartered by the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society.*
- Venture crew 73 is coed.
- *Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm, at EAA 690 Hangar at:  
Briscoe Field - Sports Aviation Complex  
Hangar 1, 690 Airport Road  
Lawrenceville, GA 30045*
- Crew 73 is a youth-run organization, which means that our Crew President and other youth plan the Crew's outings and activities each month.

We enjoy:

- ◊ Camping
- ◊ Hiking
- ◊ Horseback Riding
- ◊ Shooting Sports

- Crew activities usually mix high adventure and the use of Amateur Radio.
- For more information, attend our next meeting or contact:

### Steve Back, WB2OGY

Venture Crew 73 Committee Chairman

Phone: 770-712-9069

Email: [committeechair@venturecrew73.org](mailto:committeechair@venturecrew73.org)

### Jeff Lee, AF4JL

Venture Crew 73 Advisor

Phone: 678-475-3165

Email: [advisor@venturecrew73.org](mailto:advisor@venturecrew73.org)



## GARS Officers and Committee Chairs

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA  
President



Earl Whatley, AF4FG  
Vice President



Hal Collier, W4IGE  
Secretary



Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC  
Treasurer, Apparel Manager



Sandy Jackson, KJ4DRO  
Program Manager



Dave Bruse, W4DTR  
Membership Chairman, VE Team



David Adcock, KA4KKF  
Webmaster, Field Day Chairman



Dorothy Jubon, N2DLJ  
Public Information Officer



Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV  
TechFest Chairman



Ray Bailey, N4GYN  
GARzette Editor



Jeff Cutchins, AB4HF  
Multimedia Chairman



John Ackermann, N8UR



W4GR Trustee



Eddie Foust, WD4JEM  
Repeater Chairman



Mike Weathers, ND4V  
WAS-Checker, Historian



Phil McCleary, N4LNE  
Net Manager



Mike Swiderski, K4HBI  
Technical Advisor



Rich Waigand, K4KME



## GARS Communications

2 Meter Repeater  
147.075(+) MHz  
82.5 PL Tone

2 Meter Repeater  
147.255(+) MHz  
107.2 PL Tone

APRS  
144.390 -- 1200 Baud  
W4GR

6 Meter Repeater  
53.110 (-1 MHz)  
82.5 PL Tone

D-Star  
WD4STR  
145.060 + (1.4 MHz)  
440.550 + (5 MHz)

70 Cm Repeaters  
444.525(+) MHz  
82.5 PL Tone  
442.100(+) MHz  
82.5 PL Tone

Main Repeater Site  
Oak Street,  
Lawrenceville

Backup Repeater Site  
Lanier Mountain,

## Ham Radio News

Via ARRL website

### [FCC Proposes More Spectrum at 5 GHz for Unlicensed Broadband](#)

On February 20, the FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in ET Docket No. 13-49, seeking to revise the Part 15 rules governing unlicensed national information infrastructure (U-NII) devices in the 5 GHz band. [Learn More](#)

### [Surfin': Not Your Father's 3-D](#)

This week, Surfin' considers 3-D printing as a tool for ham radio makers. [Learn More](#)

### [FCC Upholds California Man's \\$24,000 Fine for Unlicensed Radio Operations, Refusing Inspection of Radio Equipment](#)

In June 2011, the FCC issued a Forfeiture Order in the amount of \$24,000 to Kevin W. Bondy of Encino, California for engaging in unlicensed radio operation, intentional interference to licensed radio operations and for refusing to allow an inspection of h... [Learn More](#)

## GARS Recurring Calendar

- ♦ Monthly club meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7pm
- ♦ Every Monday at 8pm: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 2-meter repeater
- ♦ Every Thursday at 9pm: GARS Round Table Net, 2 & 6 Meters
- ♦ Every Saturday at 7:30am: GARS Weekly Family Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville

## Meeting Minutes for Feb. 12, 2013

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, GARS President, called the meeting to order at 7:00pm at the EAA building.

Introductions of first time visitors and others present. Treasurer's Report – Hal Collier, W4IGE, reported Program Manager – Sandy Jackson, KJ4DRO, announced:

March's program will be "Slice of Pi" by Chris Fowler K4FH.

April's program will be "A Brief History of Time (keeping)" by John Ackermann, N8UR.

Jeff Cutchins, AF4HF, announced the "Know It All" net on Wednesday night's at 8:30 pm.

Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV, announced that Techfest was a success and was the biggest Techfest yet. The food was great too. Norm is looking for new ideas for next year. Please send suggestions to wa4zxv@arrl.net.

The dog show went well but was quite cold. Thanks to all who helped out.

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, reminded everyone that the Technician Hamcram that will be on March 30th from 8:30am-5pm followed by a testing session at 5pm. Preregister on the GARS website.

The GA QSO party will be on April 13 and 14 at a park somewhere in Gwinnett county.

Hal Collier, W4IGE, reminded everyone that another "Satellites in the Park" is being planned for May. May Madness information will be available soon.

Earl Whatley, AF4FG, announced that GARS will help with the Dacula Memorial Day Parade on May 27th. We will help marshal the parade. Volunteers are needed.

The floor was opened for nominations for GARS officers. No nominations were made. The current slate of officers was voted on and was unanimously reelected for another year.

Break

Program was "Strange Antenna Challenge and LXPeditions" by Bill Perkins, KB4KFT.

Prize Drawing

There were 43 attendees at the meeting.

Meeting ended at 8:40pm

*Hal Collier W4IGE, Secretary*

## FIRST RESPONDER

Talk about being in the right place at the right time. Right after breakfast on Saturday I was the first person on the scene of a house fire on Lawrenceville Suwanee road. As I drove past, 3 adults were exiting the structure looking very distraught and there was lots of smoke coming out into the street. I stopped; got out; called 911, and went to assist the homeowner. She had 3 dogs that she had rescued from the burning home.



I went back to my SUV and got a leash for her dog Tony, took him to the car and I put him inside where it was warm. The outside temperature was around 37 degrees F. I didn't have another leash so she managed the other 2 dogs. The County responded with 9 trucks, 1 med, and 2 battalion chiefs. In a matter of minutes the fire was under control. However the home was a complete loss. I was happy to be able to provide 2 jackets for 2 residents who came out of the house quickly without any warm clothing. My job was to assist the homeowner and her dogs...



AB4HF

*Jeff Catchins* - GARS media

*There's more to the story, and you can read all about it in next month's GARzette. [Editor]*

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS MARCH 2013

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	25	26	27	28	1	3
					7:30 am - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral on Riverside Drive	
	4	5	6	7	8	9
8:00 pm - 9:00 pm GARS 2m Net	6:30 pm - 8:00 pm GARS Exec Meeting	8:30 pm - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All-Net			7:30 am - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral on Riverside Drive	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8:00 pm - 9:00 pm GARS 2m Net	5:00 pm - 6:30 pm Dinner at the Flying Machine	8:30 pm - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All-Net			7:30 am - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral on Riverside Drive	
	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm GARS Meeting				Elijah HamFest See Page 9	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:00 pm - 9:00 pm GARS 2m Net		8:30 pm - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All-Net			7:30 am - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral on Riverside Drive	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
8:00 pm - 9:00 pm GARS 2m Net		8:30 pm - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All-Net			7:30 am - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral on Riverside Drive	Thomasville Tailgate HamFest See Pg 11

Metro Testing Sessions	Ham Exam Results for February, 2013	Metro Club Meetings
<p><i>GARS publishes Metro Atlanta VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at <a href="http://www.arrl-ga.org">http://www.arrl-ga.org</a>.</i></p> <p><b>First Sunday, ODD Months</b> 2 pm (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, &amp; Nov) WCARS VEC Braselton Public Utility Building 4986 Highway 53, Braselton, GA Roger Gibson, WB4T (770) 271-4210 or (770) 712-9560</p> <p><b>First Sunday, EVEN Months</b> 2 pm (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec) WCARS VEC Johnson High School 3305 Poplar Springs Rd, Gainesville, GA Perry Roper, KO4RD (770) 536-3056</p> <p><b>Second Saturday, ODD Months</b> ARRL VEC 8:30 a.m. Stone Mountain Methodist Church 5312 West Mountain St. Stone Mountain Bob Varone, W4ETN (770) 978-3179</p> <p><b>Second Sunday</b> VEC: W5YI 2 pm Gwinnett County Fire Station #5 3001 Old Norcross Road Duluth, GA 30096 Contact: Dave Bruse, W4DTR Email: <a href="mailto:exams@gars.org">exams@gars.org</a></p> <p><b>Third Saturday</b> VEC: W5YI 3 pm (Except December) Auburn City Hall Council Room 1369 Fourth Avenue Auburn, GA Steve Donellan, N5SMD (404) 520-0368</p> <p><i>(cont. next column)</i></p>	<p>We had an excellent exam session today - 10 FEB 13.</p> <p>7 out of 8 applicants passed.</p> <p><u>Ham exam session results:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2 new Technicians</li> <li>- 3 upgraded to General</li> <li>- 2 upgraded to Extra</li> </ul> <p>Thanks to the VE's who made this exam session possible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mark Fehlig, WA6NGC (Co-CVE)</li> <li>- Jeff Cutchins AB4HF</li> <li>- Robert Pursley, WD4KQQ</li> <li>- Sid Weaver, N4NQ (Co-CVE)</li> </ul> <p>Thanks &amp; 73,</p> <p><i>Mark Fehlig, WA6NGC</i> Session Co-CVE Email: <a href="mailto:exams@gars.org">exams@gars.org</a> GARS VE Website: <a href="http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ARS_VE_Team/">http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ARS_VE_Team/</a></p> <p><b>Fourth Tuesday</b> ARRL VEC 7 pm @ United Way Service Center 6279 Fairburn Rd., Douglasville Jessie Clower, KB4WFK (770) 942-6466</p> <p><b>Fourth Sunday</b> 2:30 pm Georgia Tech VanLeer Elec. Building Rm. W218, 777 Atlantic Dr. See <a href="http://www.w4aql.com">www.w4aql.com</a> Alexander G. Carver (404) 894-2936 <a href="mailto:acarver@ece.gatech.edu">acarver@ece.gatech.edu</a></p>	<p><b>First Tuesday</b> Kennehoochee ARC Downtown Marietta Fire Station #1, Training Room 112 Haynes Street Marietta, Georgia 30060 Meeting begins at 7:00pm Talk In 146.880(-)</p> <p><b>First Thursday</b> Atlanta Radio Club Georgia Red Cross HQ 1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta Meeting is at 7:30pm Talk In -146.820(-) N.E. Georgia ARC Commerce Public Library Meeting is at 6:30pm Talk In - 147.225(+) PL 123.0</p> <p><b>Second Monday</b> Georgia Tech ARC Room W218 Van Leer Electrical Engineering Bldg. Georgia Tech Campus Meeting at 7:00pm</p> <p><b>Second Thursday</b> Alford Memorial Radio Club Annistown Road Baptist Church Intersection of Annistown Rd &amp; Spain Rd Stone Mountain Dinner at 6:00pm Meeting at 7:30pm Talk In - 146.760(-)</p> <p><b>Second Saturday</b> North GA QRP Club Board Room of The Shepherd Center at 2020 Peachtree Rd, NW, Atlanta at 10:00 AM</p> <p><b>Third Tuesday</b> North Fulton Amateur Radio League Masonic Lodge 194 Milton Avenue Alpharetta, Georgia meeting at 7:30pm Talk In - 145.47(-)</p>
		<p>For more, go to: <a href="http://www.gars.org/">http://www.gars.org/</a></p>

## METRO ATLANTA AMATEUR RADIO

## HAM RADIO EXAMS

### Daily

146.760 MHz PL107.2/145.45 Noon Brown Bag Net  
146.790 MHz PL110.9 8:00 PM Sassafrass Mtn.  
3.795 MHz 6:00 PM WX & Skywarn

### Sunday

7.275 MHz 9:00 AM Georgia Traders Net  
3.975 MHz 5:00 PM Winter PM GA State ARES  
146.520 5:00-6:00 PM Emergency Simplex  
145.450 7:00 PM Alford Mem. RC Roundtable  
147.060+ PL100.0 8:30 PM No. Fulton ARES  
146.820- PL146.2 7:30 PM Atlanta Radio Club Net  
147.105+ PL100.0 8:30 PM ATL C.A.R.E.S Net  
146.700- PL123.0 4:30 PM Jasper Radio Club  
50.145 Simplex 9:00 PM Six Meter Net

### Monday

145.450- PL107.2 8:00 PM Decatur A.R.E.S. Net  
145.470- PL100.0 8:30 PM North Fulton Tech. Net  
50.235 USB 8:30 PM Regional Six Meter Net  
145.430 - PL107.2 8:00 PM Cherokee ARES  
146.880 - PL100.0 8:00 PM Cobb Co. A.R.E.S. NET  
147.210+ PL162.2 9:00 PM Rockdale Co. ARES  
147.075+ PL 82.5 8:00 PM Gwinnett G.A.R.S.  
147.075+ PL 82.5 9:00 PM Gwinnett A.R.E.S.

### Tuesday

146.625- PL123.7 8:00 PM S Fulton ARES  
146.895+ PL 77.0 8:00 PM Dallas  
147.240+ PL103.5 8:00 PM Bartow Co. ARES  
147.150+ PL141.3 8:00 PM Forsyth Co. ARES

### Wednesday

145.410 - PL100.0 8:00 PM Chapter 49, QCWA Net  
145.150 - PL167.9 8:00 PM GA Tech Stinger Net .  
146.670 - PL131.0 8 8:00 PM Hall Co. ARES Net

### Thursday

146.955 - PL 77.0 7:00 PM Digital Silver CometARS  
146.955 - PL 77.0 8:00 PM, Paulding ARES.  
145.270 - PL100.0 8:00 PM, Cherokee Am. Radio Soc.  
146.880 - PL100.0 8:30 PM, Kenneehoochee ARC Net  
147.225+ PL123.0 8:00 PM, NE GA ARC  
147.150+ no PL 8:00 PM, Swap Net  
147.015- PL100.0 9:00 PM, N GA Disaster Relief Team  
147.390+ PL131.8 9:00 PM Thomaston Net

### Friday

145.110 - PL 88.5 8:00 PM Douglas Co. ARES  
147.015 - PL100.0 6:00 PM N GA Disaster Net  
146.76 - PL107.2 Midnight Turnip Truck Net

### Saturday

7.275 MHz 9:00 AM GA Traders Net  
3.857 MHz 9:00 AM Chapter 49, QCWA Net  
146.760- PL107.2 12:00 AM Midnight Turnip Truck Net  
147.015- PL100.0 10:00 PM Hoot Owl Net

## New Licenses & Upgrades

**2nd Sunday of Every Month  
starting promptly at 2:00 pm**

Primary areas served: Gwinnett County, GA and the surrounding area

Sponsor: Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society (GARS)

Talk-In: GARS Repeater on 147.075(+) MHz, Tone 82.5 Hz

### Location:

Gwinnett County Fire Station #5  
Community Room – 3001 Old Norcross Road  
Duluth, GA 30096

Map: <http://maps.google.com/maps?q=33.9566,-84.1078>

### VE Contact:

Dave Bruse W4DTR  
E-mail: [exams@gars.org](mailto:exams@gars.org)

### What to bring:

- A Photo ID. (Driver's license, Student ID, Passport, Social Security Card)
- Minors must have 2 forms of ID and SS number.
- Your original license and two (2) copies of the original license.
- Your original CSCE and two (2) copies for any outstanding elements passed.
- A pen and a pencil with eraser.
- Calculators with memory must be cleared. Cell phones are not allowed.
- Current Exam Fee is \$14.00. Cash only. Checks are not accepted.
- Walk-ins are welcome.

*No pre-registration required.*

### VEC: W5YI-VEC

*Dave Bruse* W4DTR  
Email: [exams@gars.org](mailto:exams@gars.org)



# Let's Stay Connected!



GARS has an active **Yahoo group**. You can subscribe to the group from the [www.GARS.org](http://www.GARS.org) web site or by going directly to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GARS/>

GARS also has an active **Facebook Group**, <http://www.facebook.com/groups/315255321681/>

The Facebook page is a little more social and you might find interesting comments about GARS or amateur radio in general. Join the Facebook Group by viewing the link mentioned above.

Why join the email or social groups? Club announcements, last minute ham radio news, information about area club meetings and activities, and that piece of radio gear you've been looking for might be listed for sale.

These are your groups and each of you are welcome to post questions or comments relating to amateur radio. Use them!



**Two weekly nets.** Monday evening announcements, want, shop, sell net at 8:00pm and a roundtable net on Thursday at 9:00pm. Both are on the GARS primary repeater frequency.

And don't forget our great **monthly newsletter**, **The GARZETTE**, which you are reviewing now. It contains many items of interest to our members and serves as the Official GARS publication.

# Let's Stay Connected!

### The GARzette

The GARzette is the official monthly newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word or rich text (.rtf) or text or HTML format or by email to [n4gyn@arrl.net](mailto:n4gyn@arrl.net). Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the amateur radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of The GARzette articles by other amateur radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and *The GARzette*.

*The GARzette* is published each month with the assistance of Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV who prints copies for distribution at meetings, etc. and Dave Bruse, W4DTR, who distributes the news letter electronically.

Deadline for submissions is the 25th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For additional information view our Website at: <http://www.gars.org>

Newsletter Editor: Ray Bailey—N4GYN  
770-689-6620 or [editor@gars.org](mailto:editor@gars.org)





The leading clog-free gutter systems guarantee. You'll never have to clean your gutters again. Now, you can have clog-free gutters and no overshoot, guaranteed. The Real Gutter Protector's Waterloov® System uses a patented design that slows water more effectively and draws water in more completely, with smaller openings that keep out more debris. It works so well that we simply don't get service calls – even on metal or steep roofs, even in the heaviest rain.

<http://www.clogfreegutterprotector.com> Atlanta, Georgia - (770) 630-1582  
Greenville, Anderson, Seneca, South Carolina - (864) 757-4880



## GWINNETT COLLISION CENTER, INC.



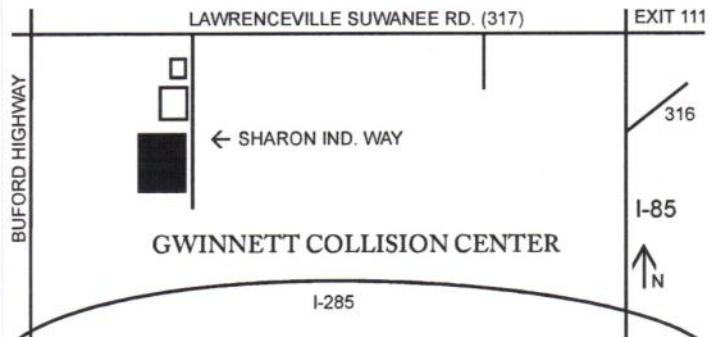
305 Sharon Industrial Way  
Suwanee, Georgia 30024  
770-945-0161

Import and Domestic  
Unibody and Frame Repair

MARTY FOWLER  
KE4MLH

See Map On Reverse

MARK JUSTICE



PRUDENTIAL  
GEORGIA  
REALTY

SHARON ADCOCK

404-428-9127

sharon@sharonadcock.com

You need an expert on your team  
when buying or selling real estate.  
10+ years experience of listening  
and filling YOUR needs.

 Prudential  
Real Estate

[www.sharonadcock.prudentialgeorgia.com](http://www.sharonadcock.prudentialgeorgia.com)

GARS Specialist  
Top Negotiator  
Top Agent



Helping hams with the sale and purchase of their properties takes extra time, effort and dedication. Not every agent is willing to make that commitment. Call me for when you or your friends and family are ready to make a move.

References available upon request.

YOUR AD GOES HERE

Contact Club Secretary  
Ralph Pickwick KF4CJC - [kj4cnc@arrl.net](mailto:kj4cnc@arrl.net)  
For Rates

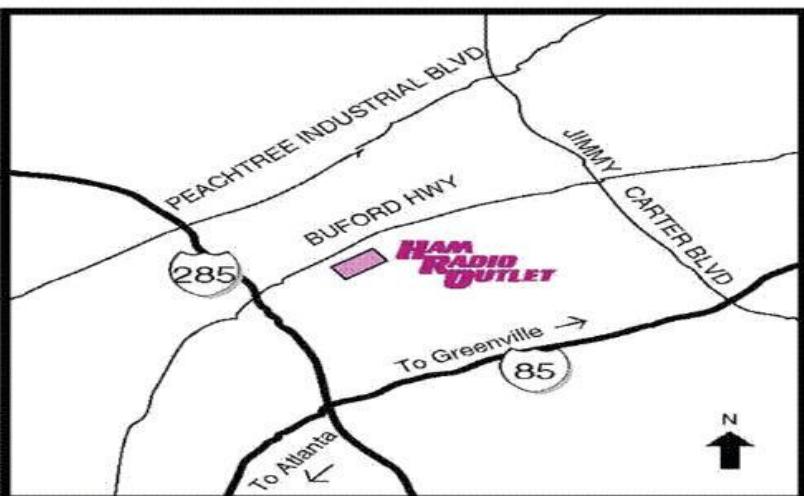
## WORLD WIDE DISTRIBUTION



Mark Holmes  
Manager  
KJ4VO

6071 Buford Highway  
Atlanta, GA 30340 (Doraville)  
770-263-0700 1-800-444-7927  
Fax: 770-263-9548  
e-mail: [atlanta@hamradio.com](mailto:atlanta@hamradio.com)  
hours: 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat.

John, KI4LMA Bill, W5RQR David, AI4XL Tom, KB4HQA  
Dale, W4GCL Jim, N1ABM Josh, W4JDH Brian, WD4DX



Alinco  
Icom  
Japan Radio Corp.  
Premier  
ADI  
Yaesu  
Alpha Delta  
Arrow  
Butternut  
Create  
Kenwood  
Tarheel  
Heil  
West Mountain

Cushcraft  
Diamond  
Force 12  
Hustler  
Hy-Gain (Telex)  
KLM  
Larsen  
M2  
Valor  
Van Gorden  
MFJ  
Ameritron  
Comet

**QUIET PLEASE**  
**Radio Operator**  
**AT WORK**

